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#279

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House bill  
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HOUSE BILL No. 251.]

[SES. 1862-'63.

Introduced by Mr. PEEBLES, of Northampton.

W. W. Holden, Printer to the State.

A BILL BY WHICH FREE PERSONS OF COLOR  
MAY ENSLAVE THEMSELVES.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the*  
2 *State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the*  
3 *authority of the same,* That all free persons of color over  
4 twenty-one years of age, married or unmarried, possess-  
5 ing a sound and contracting mind, shall have full right,  
6 power and authority to enslave themselves to any white  
7 citizen of this State, in the same manner, and under the  
8 same rules and regulations as are now prescribed by law  
9 for the conveyance of real estate by *feme coverts*.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted,* That all free persons of  
2 color thus enslaving themselves, shall be forever thereaf-  
3 ter regarded in law and equity, as negro slaves to all in-  
4 tents and purposes.

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[illegible]

Hollinger Corp.  
pH 8.5